July 13, 1949

Mrs. Mary Sheffield
361 Clinton Avenue
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Mrs. Sheffield:

I was not very satisfied with the explanations Leonard Ferrer gave when he was in this country earlier this year and there were a number of matters on his balance sheet which he stated his accountant would have to explain to me. My wife and I were planning a trip to Europe and I determined it would be best if I went to see Leonard and his accountant and talked it out with them.

I was in London in April and met with his accountant, went over all of Leonard's stock of merchandise, and was able to get a fair understanding of the problems with which he was confronted. He sold a number of coins to a gentleman who promised to pay off in Swiss francs but has not yet met the obligation. I believe he is making some progress toward collecting this amount now.

I also discussed with Leonard what he could do if he was able to get some of the Brand coins sent to Europe. Many of them have now been sent to Switzerland for sale. I am not sure as to how Leonard will participate, but I am sure it will put him in a position where he can get money to pay us. As you fully realize, Leonard's chief trouble is the very complicated foreign exchange problem which restricts his English activities very much, but I am reasonably satisfied that what he owes will be forthcoming in due course.

The estate tax matters are still open, but in due course I expect to straighten this out.

With best regards to you.

Sincerely yours,

EPNewman/me

July 7, 1949.

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
315 Washington St.,
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Eric:

As I have not heard anything from you for some time, I was wondering if there was anything new on the horizon in connection with the settlement of the estate. Were you able to work out any kind of a deal with our British friend when he was here in February? I shall be interested in learning anything that you may have to tell me.

I have disposed of almost all my "junk " coins and while I didn't get as much as I would have liked for the lot, am fairly well satisfied. They had become such a nuisance with no place in the apartment to put them and with the type of window-washers and repairmen one has to put up with in New York, I was afraid to have all those boxes around. Hans Schulman has sold a few of the better coins while in Europe.

About the only topic in New York is the extreme heat and dryness which we have had to endure for the past month. St. Louis at its worst has nothing on us.

With kindest regards to the family,

Sincerely,

Mary Shaffer

361 Clinton Ave.,
Brooklyn, N. Y.

November 30, 1949.

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
515 Washington St.,
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Now that the year is drawing to a close, we are giving a little thought as to what our financial position will be at the end of 1949. Are there any new developments in the settlement of the estate and do you expect to make any further payments anytime soon? Also, if you would give me a brief summary of funds still to be distributed, etc., I would appreciate it. I suppose the devaluation program was no help in getting the British situation worked out either.

No particular news at this end.

With kind regards and thanking you for the desired information, I am

Sincerely,

Myra Shapiro

361 Clinton Ave.,
Brooklyn 5, N. Y.

ST. LOUIS STAMP & COIN CO.

December 2, 1949

Mrs. Mary Sheffield
361 Clinton Avenue
Brooklyn 5, New York

Dear Mrs. Sheffield:

Your letter of November 30, 1949 received, and we have been thinking of you. George Gessler's father just died, and so he has been having his hands full.

We hear from Mary Cruzan that she plans to return to this country in the late spring of 1950, and I may ask her to come back by way of London if I feel that that will do any good.

Very little has happened in the estate during the year. We have on hand approximately $17,000 in cash and have an income tax refund of approximately $4,000 due us. There is a small balance of executors' fees which is due, but most of them are paid, so this money ought to be available for distribution as soon as tax clearances are received.

We have not heard anything from Leonard Forrer in London but I am expecting to hear from him before the end of the year, as I believe he will be in a position to make some sort of payment. You are completely right that the devaluation situation did not help matters any, but since it was only to the extent of the free market devaluation of English pounds, which has been current for several years, I don't believe it did Leonard any harm as all of his money was in coins, as Mr. Johnson had advised him. I certainly hope that this situation will straighten itself out soon, but there is nothing I can do about it for the present.

Otherwise, there is nothing very exciting here either, but my little family are growing up and are full of pep.

Sincerely yours,

EPNewman/me

Brooklyn, New York
December , 1949

Received of the executors of the Estate of B. G. Johnson the sum of Five Thousand and No/100 Dollars ($5,000.00) as a partial distribution.

ST. LOUIS STAMP & COIN CO.

December 14, 1949

Mrs. Mary Sheffield
361 Clinton Avenue
Brooklyn 5, New York

Dear Mrs. Sheffield:

Since writing to you recently we have received a tentative approval of an income tax refund from the Government, and, therefore, feel that a partial distribution can be made at this time. We are enclosing a check for $5,000 and would appreciate it if you would sign both receipts which are enclosed.

Kindest regards for the Holidays.

Sincerely yours,

FPNewman/fm
Fncs.

Brooklyn, N. Y.
December 19th, 1949.

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
315 Washington St.,
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

I was very happy to receive your letter of December 14th with the check for $5,000.00 as another partial distribution against the estate. I have signed both copies of receipt and am enclosing them.

Thank you for this very nice "Christmas bonus" and with holiday greetings to all of you,

Sincerely,

Mary H. Sheffield

December 20, 1950

Mrs. Mary Sheffield
361 Clinton Ave., Apt. 9-F
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Mrs. Sheffield:

You will be interested to know that we just heard from Leonard Forrer and I am enclosing a copy of the letter which I wrote and the response. I had to use pretty rough tactics but apparently it had some results. The policy of appeasement seems to be unsatisfactory everywhere.

I am enclosing herewith a check for Twenty Five Hundred Dollars ($2500.00), a partial distribution to you, and Mary Cruzan indicates that you divided the coins which I turned over to her and I am sending receipts, in triplicate, covering both distributions. Would you be kind enough to sign two copies of the receipt and send them back to me for the court file?

I hope that Leonard Forrer means what he says and I believe he is just generally disgruntled due to the fact that he got a bad break when Mr. Johnson died. Eventually we will get this matter straightened out.

Best regards to your husband and yourself and my best Holiday wishes.

Sincerely,

EPNewman;atb

January 2, 1951.

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
315 Washington Ave.,
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you very much for your letter of December 20th and for the check in amount of $2,500.00 which accompanied it. I have signed two copies of receipt for this check and also the value of the coins, $337.19, which Mary Cruzan turned over to me, and am enclosing these copies.

I was very much interested in the copies of letters exchanged between you and Leonard Forrer. It is unfortunate that every now and then we have to get tough with people in order to make them believe what we say but that is the only kind of tactics which some people seem to understand. Apparently Mr. Forrer is one of them. Let us hope that he follows through on his promise to start paying off his indebtedness in March and that he gets it wound up as quickly as possible. I know you must be pretty sick of dragging along with him and the tag ends of the estate after all this time. At least, to the best of my knowledge , you didn't have any disgruntled relatives to contend with, which I surely thought you would have and have often wondered why none of them came forward.

As you probably know, the Cruzans moved during Christmas week to their new home in Pennsylvania. I hated to have them go but believe they were well pleased to leave Long Island as they had had so many bad breaks while living here.

With best wishes to you and the family for a very happy New Year,

Sincerely,

Mary H. Sheffield

September 4, 1952

Mrs. A. V. Sheffield
361 Clinton Avenue, Apartment 9-F
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Mrs. Sheffield:

As you know, I went to England to try to straighten out matters with Leonard Forrer and have made somewhat of a start. I had to hire an attorney there and after he had done a few things for me to make my work easier I have been advised that he has died.

Leonard is a very confused and disorganized individual with ulcers and all of the difficulties which go with unreliability and with general conditions as they are in England.

With respect to the August 22, 1945 invoice to Leonard Forrer which had a retail listing of $14,335.50 and a cost of $5250. and in which I have a one-half interest, I have succeeded in getting to America $1704.40 at retail price and have left about $1500. more with a friend of mine in England which I will try to get out of England somehow. Your share of the $1704.40 with a retail price of $427.00 is enclosed herewith. As soon as any further coins are obtained from this account they will be similarly divided.

In 1952 we have received from Leonard Forrer, in dollars, three payments totalling $759.26. In any event we are enclosing check for $2,000.as a distribution of the Estate. Mary Cruzan has received a similar distribution and a similar group of coins.

I was able to get travelling expenses in pounds from Leonard while I was in England so that there will be no charge for my trip against dollars which the Estate has on hand.

I believe there will be further payments made by Leonard and I am going to continue to make every effort to straighten out this matter.

Will you be kind enough to sign and return one copy of the enclosed receipt for the Probate Court files.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

September 29, 1952.

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
315 Washington Ave.,
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Your letter of September 8 arrived while we were away on a belated vacation so I am a little late in acknowledging it and returning the signed receipt which you enclosed. Thank you very much for the check in amount of $2000.00, the coins which you have to date recovered from Leonard S. Forrer, and your explanation of how this was handled.

It is gratifying to know that some little progress is being made in the affairs of Mr. Forrer. While we all understand that conditions in England generally are in a rather sorry mess, somehow I have not been able to shed any tears for him personally. However, I feel that you are doing your utmost to get this matter straightened out so that a complete settlement of the estate can be made before too long.

I would appreciate your dropping me a line from time to time, informing me of any new developments.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Howard Sheffield

August 10, 1953

Mrs. A. V. Sheffield
361 Clinton Avenue, Apartment 9-F
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Mary:

Just a note to tell you that I got an answer from Mr. Forrer to a letter I wrote him and he says he is doing a little better.

We received a small payment on his account earlier this year and I hope these payments continue to come. You have not heard from me for so long I felt a report of this nature would be welcome.

Forrer sent us a few sets of the Queen Elizabeth II coinage as a part payment on the account. If you would like one I would be glad to forward it to you.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

August 26. 1953

Dear Eric -

It was good to get your letter of August 10. I had assumed that you had nothing much to report or you would have written earlier.

I am glad to hear that Leonard Forrer is making a little progress and hope he will continue to make payments.

As to the Queen Elizabeth II coinage, you need not bother to send me any of these sets as we have a couple which were brought us by returning friends, and they are not of enough value to make them worth while. It was kind of you to offer to send them.

Thank you for keeping me informed. Let us hope we'll all live to see the day when the estate is finally settled.

With best regards,

Sincerely

Mary Sheffield

January 27, 1954

Dear Eric -

I just wondered if there has been anything new on the horizon. Have you heard anything more from Leonard Dorrer and has he made any further payments on what he owes the estate. Just what is the status of the estate at this time?

There is one point on which I have never been very clear and that is the time limit - if any - in making complete settlement. Does the court allow the affair to hang fire for an indefinite time or, after a given number of years, must an estate be settled and any uncollectible funds be written off as a loss?

It hardly seems possible that

it has been almost seven years since Burdette's death. The time seems to have sailed by - but that is probably just an admission that I am growing old

Any information you can give me will be greatly appreciated

With kindest regards

Sincerely

Mary Sheffield

361 Clinton ave.
Brooklyn 38, N.Y.

October 21, 1957

Mrs. Mary Crusan
604 Green Street
Royersford 6, Pennsylvania

Mrs. Mary Sheffield
361 Clinton Avenue
Brooklyn 38, New York

Dear Mary and Mary:

With respect to the Johnson Estate, we have in the bank account $4200.00.

You asked whether it would be necessary for you to be here when the estate is closed. I want you to know it will not be necessary. It will be necessary for you to sign a consent to the final settlement and a few receipts for distribution.

I wrote Leonard and asked him to start remitting from Holland on the total of over $12,000.00 which he owes. Approximately $8,000.00 of that was income to estate and $4,000.00 to me personally. Small checks are still coming in from commissions which he is earning in America. The last check was in the great amount of $18.00. We have collected only $94.47 from him this year, so far, and $587.41 last year. The total of all credits on the Ferrer account (not including returned coins), some of which had to be applied to my revolving expenses to Europe, amounted to about $1,000.00.

George and I will do whatever you girls want and we believe that we can wind up the estate and still work together to try to collect the accounts against Leonard. I asked him to make definite monthly installment payments but there has not been time to hear from him. He is, apparently, doing nicely and if we don't hear from him we want to press some action. This summer I was able to bring home some coins from England which I previously took away from Leonard and was unable to bring to this country before.

There is in St. Louis, the Oscar (the suit of armor), and a

-2- October 21, 1955

Mrs. Mary Cruzan
Mrs. Mary Sheffield

substantial quantity of miscellaneous minor foreign coins known as the junk coins. If you wish to have me call in some dealers and take the highest bid for this mound of coins, I can readily do that, dividing them up. It would be a terrible nuisance shipping them, and quite costly.

Please give me your thoughts and we will be glad to cooperate.

Best regards to both of you.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. [illegible]

EPH/sab

COPY

October 26, 1955.

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
400 Washington Ave.,
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric:

After receiving your letter of October 21, Mary Cruzan and I had another discussion over the telephone and it was agreed that I should write this time on behalf of both of us. We appreciate your giving us a resume of the present condition of the estate.

It is indeed an understatement to say that we are both extremely annoyed with Leonard Forrer and his attitude throughout the entire negotiation and it irks us no end to let him get away with anything. However, since he has paid off so poorly over the past eight and a half years we feel there is a strong probability that we will all be dead and almost forgotten by the time he makes complete settlement. Therefore, we would like for you to go ahead and arrange for the final settlement just as soon as is practical and we will just have to take our loss with as good grace as we can muster and be eternally grateful for what we have received.

You speak of the possibility of continuing to collect from Leonard even after the estate is closed. This would seem to present a legal technicality, with which you are doubtless familiar but is all Greek to us. But if you can work out anything along that line, why - fine and dandy and you have our blessing.

You have our full consent to go ahead and sell Oscar and the junk coins or dispose of them in any way you see fit. It is unfortunate they have cluttered up your basement al l this time and we know you and Evelyn will be glad to get rid of them.

Any papers you send for execution will have prompt attention.

We believe that both you and George will get our point of view on this and our desire to have the whole thing wound up as quickly as possible.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Mary Hoffman

CC To Mary Cruzan.

November 14, 1955

Mrs. Mary Sheffield
361 Clinton Avenue
Brooklyn 38, New York

Mrs. Mary Cruzan
604 Green Street
Royersford 6, Pennsylvania

Dear Marys:

The letter of October 26, 1955 from Mary Sheffield is at hand and I have contacted the Probate Court and find that I will not be able to close the estate until the February, 1956 term in view of the necessity of publishing notice. This is nothing but regular red tape and I will have everything prepared long before then.

With respect to Leonard Porter, he wrote a book entitled "The Art of Coin Collecting", published by The Citadel Press, 222 Fourth Avenue, New York 3, New York. If he is receiving royalties from this book we could actually sue and attach these royalties. I bought a copy of the book and I was duly unimpressed but perhaps it is satisfactory for the beginner. Perhaps one of you has a contact that might inquire at the Citadel Press whether there is any money accumulated for Leonard and, if so, you certainly are justified in attaching that sum. Perhaps just a friendly call on them to ask them about the situation could do no harm.

My best to both of you.

Sincerely,

EPW/atb

May 25, 1956

Mrs. Mary Sheffield
961 Clinton Avenue
Apartment 5-F
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Mary:

You would never believe it but the Probate Court did not close the Johnson Estate until today. Their auditors just never got to our papers even though I called up almost once a week.

The miscellaneous foreign junk which I have had in my basement finally found a customer and I am enclosing a check payable to your order for $500.00 and a similar check is going to West Coast Mary. There will be other substantial payments to come. You have no idea how lucky you are to dispose of this mess at any price.

I have on hand your portion of the coins which I brought back from England last summer. I delivered Mary's portion to her. These will not be easy to sell but, like all items, someone always comes along. If you want me to try to sell them to the man I am selling these other foreign coins to I will endeavor to do so.

My best to you.

Sincerely,

ERIC I. SEAMAN

EIS/atb

June 5, 1956.

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
400 Washington Ave.,
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric:

You could have knocked me over with a feather when I opened your letter of May 25. The check for $500.00 was nothing less than a windfall and I do appreciate your disposing of the junk coins very much, particularly at such a nice figure. We were indeed very lucky.

Now, as to the coins which you brought back from England, I would consider it a great favor if you would dispose of my portion. You may sell them to anyone who is willing to buy and if satisfactory with you, I would like you to withhold from the remittance a commission for yourself. Would 20 percent be all right? I have not tried to sell anything through the dealers lately so don't know what the current rate is but that is what I paid some time ago. However, whatever is acceptable to you will be OK with me.

Thank you again and the best of luck to you.

Sincerely,

Mary Stuffield

June 8, 1956

Mrs. Mary Sheffield
361 Clinton Avenue, Apt. 9-F
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Mary:

In due course I will try to dispose of the coins I brought back from England which belong to you. You will not get much out of these but, strangely enough, you will get further remittances out of the junk coins.

As far as the commission for me is concerned, I can assure you that I would never have undertaken all of the work for the Johnson Estate for the compensation involved if it had not been something I wanted to do for J.D.J. He was responsible for elevating my interest in coin collecting and coin history. He did many, many favors for me and the least I could do was to try to take care of his estate the way he would have wanted it.

Incidentally, we have a little trust fund here to put flowers on Mr. Johnson's grave and I am going to try to work out something with our Historical Society so that they will have that responsibility and use the balance of the income themselves.

George Gessler was married again and went to Europe. He certainly has had tough luck, losing two wives, but now he is happy again. I certainly wish him luck this time.

Kindest personal regards to you.

Sincerely,

EPW/stb

June 29, 1956.

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
400 Washington Ave.,
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric:

Thank you very much for your letter of June 22 and the enclosed check for $250.00. This good fortune is really comical.

As to your letter of June 8, I hope I was not offensive when I made the offer of a commission on sales of my other coins. It was merely that I didn't want you to feel that I was a chiseler, especially after all the effort you had put into disposition of the coins and settlement of the estate. Anyway you want to get rid of them and at whatever prices will be satisfactory with me.

I think your plan to have the Historical Society take care of the flowers on Burdette's grave is an excellent one, particularly if the society itself can bennefit in a small way in doing so. Somehow, it seems fitting that his name should in some way be identified with that sort of group because of his great knowledge and love of historical things.

Glad to hear that George Gessler has remarried. As you say, he has had very bad luck in losing two wives and is entitled to some happiness.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

P.S. Your last letter was delayed several days because it was addressed to Clinton Street instead of Clinton Avenue. There is a Clinton St. not far away with the same street numbers as ours and hence there is always a lot of confusion. The post office department seems to operate like most other labor organizations now days and either does it the hard way or ignores the situation entirely, whereas a simple reference to the telephone book would set everybody right immediately.

July 9 1956

Dear Eric -

Thank you very much for the check for $81.44, sent with your letter of June 27. I am certainly getting a bang out of this flurry of good luck.

Fancy your meeting Bill Quiry. He was no doubt visiting his daughter who lives in the St Louis area. Did he tell you he had been with Brooks Bros. around sixty years? Quite a record for anyone I'd say.

Best regards

Sincerely

Mary Sheppard

September 4, 1956

Mrs. Winston Grazan
3 Longfellow Road
Hill Valley, California

Mrs. Mary Sheffield
361 Clinton Avenue, Apt. 9-F
Brooklyn, 38, New York

Dear Marys:

Enclosed is a check for $250.00 for each of you. This is a further payment on the foreign material. Please accept these continued shocks with fortitude.

Sincerely,

[illegible]

[illegible]/atb

Sept. 6, 1956

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Ave
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric—

I thank you very much for the check for $250.00 enclosed with your letter of Sept. 4, 1956.

These are indeed pleasant shocks and fortune is holding up very well so far. It just goes to show how things turn up in the most unexpected ways.

With best regards

Sincerely

Mary Stefani

October 9, 1956.

Dear Eric:

Once again, thank you very much for the check for $250.00 dated October 3. Still holding up under these shocks and getting a big kick out of the whole thing.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Harry

October 30, 1956

Dear Mary,

This will clean up the small foreign coins.

I am sure you are pleased with the results of this sale.

Sincerely,

106 6 4

EPN/atb

From the desk of
ERIC P. NEWMAN

November 26 1936

Dear Eric

Thank you very much for the check which accompanied your note of Oct 30

The results of the sale's have far exceeded my fondest expectations and to you I shall be eternally grateful.

Sincerely

Mary.

January 2,1957

Mrs. Mary Sheffield
361 Clinton Avenue, Apt. 9-F
Brooklyn 3[illegible], New York

Dear Mary:

Happy New Year. Enclosed find check for $59.33, being your portion of further collections on the Forrer account.

It is always nice to write to you in this manner.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC [illegible]. [illegible]

[illegible]/stb

January 10, 1957.

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
400 Washington ave.,
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Eric:

Thank you for your very nice New Year greeting. The check for $59.33 on the Forrer account is a very nice way of starting the new year right, especially as I had given up any idea of ever hearing of or from him again.

With best wishes to you and the family,

Sincerely,

Mary Sheffield